

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 988
By Mumpower

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. Kermit Lowry, Jr., of
Bristol.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of
the passing of Dr. Kermit Lowry, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lowry was an esteemed physician and consummate professional who
worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities,
earning the respect of colleagues and patients alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, born in Kinston, North Carolina, Kermit Lowry, Jr., was the son of the late
Kermit and Pattye Richardson Lowry. A 1952 graduate of Tennessee High School, Mr. Lowry
was a member of the basketball team and the Key Club; he was also active in the Boy Scouts,
where he attained the rank of Eagle Scout, and he later served on the staff of Camp Tom
Howard; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lowry graduated with Honors from the University of Virginia in 1955
with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry; while attending the University of Virginia, he
was named to Phi Eta Sigma, an honorary academic achievement fraternity, and was also a
member of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity, and the University's Glee Club. Dr. Lowry also served as
Head Cheerleader for the football team, played soccer, and was a founding member of The
Virginia Gentleman, a men's octet, which celebrated their fiftieth anniversary in March of 2003;
Kermit Lowry, Jr., was an honored guest at the celebration, along with the other surviving
founders; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lowry graduated from Emory University Medical School in 1959 and
completed his residency at Emory University and Grady Memorial Hospitals; he was a
Diplomate of the American Board of Surgery and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons;
Dr. Lowry was also a veteran of the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, a long time team physician for the Tennessee High School Athletic Department, Dr. Lowry was a founding member of the State of Franklin Surgical Society; an original member in the establishment of the Professional Park; a key organizer in establishing the Bristol Surgery Center, which was the first free-standing outpatient surgery center in the region; and was involved in establishing the Medical School at East Tennessee State University, where he served as Professor in the Department of Surgery; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his many professional achievements, Dr. Lowry's community contributions included the Bristol Historical Society and the Rotary Club, which he served as President. He was the recipient of the Paul Harris Fellow Award and established the Kermit Lowry Sr. Fund for the Paul Harris Fellowship in honor of his father, was a member of the Ski Patrol on Beech Mountain in North Carolina, and enjoyed tennis, golf, and hunting; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lowry was deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Kermit Lowry, Jr., was the proud father of daughters Lynn Lowry Carroll and Tera Lowry Burnette, and son Kermit Lowry III; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lowry is also survived by his former wife, Eleanor Hardy Lowry; seven adoring grandchildren, Ryan and Reese Carroll, Matt and Brandon Burnette, and Kermit IV, Mary Katherine, and Maddie Karoline Lowry; special friend, Betty McGlothlin; daughter, Kim Ramey; and Mrs. Gary Roberts; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Kermit Lowry, Jr., leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant, physician, and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Dr. Kermit Lowry, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Dr. Lowry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.